Chapter 4 – The Church is Victorious (313)

1. "In this sign, conquer"
    a. *AD 306, Constantine was proclaimed emperor*
    b. *October 28, 312 – Constantine won the war against Maxentius after seeing a cross above the sun with letters written "Hoc Signo Vinces"*
2. The Edict of Milan
    a. *Constantine, previously worshiped Mithras but because of the sign converted into Christianity (some said that this is just a political action because of the increasing popularity and power of the Christians in the Roman empire)*
    b. *In AD 313, the Edict of Milan was issued setting up Christianity as the only and official religion of the empire (although did not outlaw other pagan religions), and ended he persecution*
3. The Church's Victory is a Marvel
    a. *After more than 300 hundred years, enduring heresies and misconduct of members, persecutions and doctrinal attacks – the church has finally become a majority*
4. Turning Points in the History of the Church
    a. *1st – expulsion from Jerusalem after Stephen's death*
    b. *2nd – Paul's missionary activity*
    c. *3rd – AD 313, Edict of Milan*
5. The World Invades the Church
    a. *The edict also has a disadvantage as it becomes a privilege to be Christian and thus increased membership from heathens for political, military and social promotions*
    b. *Unfortunately, they are counterfeit – Christians by name only, what is gained by quantity is lost in quality*
    c. *Before 313, the message of Jesus was spread through peaceful means, but after 313 war was often employed (the Roman army replaced its Eagle emblem with the Cross after 313)*
6. The Relation Between Church and State
    a. *One negative result also is the control of the state government over the church government that started in 313 – which has cause so much trouble even unto this day*
7. Julian Fails to Revive Heathenism
    a. *In AD 361, Julian – the nephew of Constantine became emperor, also known as Julian the Apostate because he forsook the Christians*
    b. *In AD 363, Julian died in battle and failed to revive heathenism*